

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of GTech Fiber,)
LLC for its Designation as a Telecommunications)
Carrier Eligible for Federal Universal Service)
Support Pursuant to the Telecommunications)
Act of 1996)

File No. DA-2023-0077

STAFF RESPONSE TO ORDER

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and submits its *Response to Order* as follows:

1. On August 17, 2022, GTech Fiber, LLC (“GTech” or “Company”) filed an Application (“Application”) for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) in order to receive federal Lifeline and state Lifeline and Disabled discounts. In its Application, GTech asks the Commission to grant the Company “an ETC designation to GTech Fiber, LLC, in the census blocks listed and area depicted in Attachment [sic] ‘B’ hereto.”

2. On August 19, 2022, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, Setting Intervention Deadline, and Directing Filing of Staff Recommendation* in which the Commission ordered Staff to file a recommendation or request an extension of time to file a recommendation no later than October 3, 2022. On September 29, 2022, GTech supplemented its Application.

3. Staff filed its *Recommendation* on September 29, 2022, in which it recommended that the Commission grant GTech “statewide designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal low-income support and Missouri USF [Universal Service Fund] support to provide Lifeline and Disabled services in Missouri.”

4 On October 6, 2022, the Commission ordered Staff to either verify that GTech should be granted statewide ETC designation or whether GTech should be granted ETC designation in the area requested in its Application.

5. In its *Recommendation*, Staff inadvertently recommended that the Commission grant GTech statewide ETC status. This was incorrect. Staff recommends that the Commission grant GTech ETC designation as requested and outlined in Appendix “B” of the Company’s Application.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission grant GTech Fiber, LLC as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the area requested in its Application for the purpose of receiving federal low-income support and Missouri USF support to provide Lifeline and Disabled services in Missouri and that it grant such other and further relief as the Commission finds appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Ron Irving

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 7th day of October, 2022, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Ron Irving